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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: **Whitman, et al.**  
Application No.: **09/887,789**  
Attorney Docket No.: **3556-P03147US01**  
Filed: **June 22, 2001**  
For: **"ELECTRO-MECHANICAL SURGICAL DEVICE"**  
Examiner: **Tran, Louis B.**  
Group Art Unit: **3721**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this Response and accompanying papers are being deposited on **November 29, 2004** with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope properly addressed to COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

November 29, 2004  
Date of Certificate

Cristin Donahue  
Cristin Donahue

**Petition for Extension Under 37 CFR §1.136(a)**

Applicant's undersigned Attorney hereby petitions for an extension of time of **THREE** months beyond the time period set in the last office communication. The proper fee is enclosed as identified in the enclosed Fee Transmittal form.

November 29, 2004  
Date of Certificate

Niels Haun  
Niels Haun  
PTO Registration No. 48,488

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

In response to the Official Action dated May 28, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as indicated on the following pages.

The amendments to the **claims** begin on **page 2**.

The **remarks** concerning the office action and Applicant's amendments begin on **page**

4.